

REMARKS

A.) Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the subject matter of claims 7-10 and 22-25 is allowable.

B.) The Section 103 Rejections of Claims 1, 4, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, 27 and 29-32

Claims 1, 4, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, 27 and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on the combination of Hrstar et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,286,058 ("Hrstar"), Nordman, U.S. Patent No. 6,061,346 Nordman (Nordman) and Maeshima, U.S. Patent No. 6,092,113 (Maeshima). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Each of the rejected claims includes the feature of translating an identifier associated with a first IP address to a tunnel interface identifier associated with a second IP address.

Because the combination of Hrstar, Nordman and Maeshima does not appear to disclose or suggest this feature the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1, 4, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, 27 and 29-32.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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